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**PRESS RELEASE** 

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## State Closes Two Moose Hunts: Unit 22B West of Darby Mountains & Unit 22C

(Nome) – The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announces an emergency order closure of moose seasons in two hunting areas in Unit 22 covered under registration permit hunt RM840. Hunt areas in Unit 22B West and Unit 22C are affected by this announcement, as follows:

<u>Unit 22(B) West of the Darby Mountains moose season closure</u>: the fall portion of the State resident season for bull moose by registration permit Hunt RM840 in Unit 22(B), that portion west of the Darby Mountains closes at 11:59 p.m. on September 6, 2012. (Note: this area is identified as the Remainder of Unit 22(B) in the hunting regulations booklet).

Harvest in western Unit 22(B) is expected to reach the fall harvest quota of 15 bulls by the season closing date in this announcement. No further harvest is warranted at this time. Hunters should note that seasons and harvest quotas in this hunt area are managed cooperatively with federal managers and a similar season closure for federal permits may be announced by federal managers.

Since moose hunting in western Unit 22(B) is managed by separate fall and winter harvest quotas, the State season will reopen January 1, 2013 in Hunt RM849 with a minimum winter harvest quota of 8 antlered bulls. Hunters are reminded to get a new hunting license if they plan to hunt with a RM849 permit in the winter 2013 season.

<u>Unit 22(C)</u> moose season closure: the State resident and nonresident season for bull moose by registration permit Hunt RM840 in Unit 22(C) closes at 11:59 p.m. on September 6, 2012. The fall harvest quota of 13 bulls is expected to be reached by the season closing date announced in this emergency order and no further harvest is warranted.

Only the hunt areas for registration permit RM840 within Unit 22(D) Kuzitrin and Unit 22(D) Southwest have not reached harvest quota and remain open at this time. Unless additional closures are announced by emergency order, the RM840 season in Unit 22(D) is Sept. 1-Sept. 14. Hunters are advised to check with the Nome ADF&G office for emergency closures as the season progresses and harvest is reported to the department.

All other moose hunting regulations in Unit 22 remain unchanged by this emergency order.

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